

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 AID-05 HA-05 MCT-01 IO-13
SS-15 SP-02 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00
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R 021445Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2918
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, IS, JO
SUBJECT: U.S. VOLUNTARY AGENCY OPERATIONS IN THE WEST BANK AND GAZA

1. ANERA REP HENRY SELZ ON MAY 2 DISCUSSED
WITH EMBASSY AND CONGEN OFFICERS HIS MAY 1 MEETING WITH
MINSOCWEL DEPUTY DIRGEN AVITSOUR ON THE ANERA PROGRAM (SELZ'S
MEMCON IS BEING POUCHED TO NEA/IAI). SELZ SAID THAT IT WAS
A BETTER MEETING THAN HE HAD EXPECTED: INSTEAD OF
THE CATEGORICAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE ENTIRE PROGRAM,
THE PATTERN OF THE MEETING APPROXIMATED THAT OF LAST
YEAR'S NEGOTIATIONS FOR PROJECT APPROVALS. MSW GURDGINGLY
AGREED TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF TWO PROJECTS, IS STILL
CONSIDERING SEVERAL OTHERS AND HAS DISAPPROVED FOUR
OR FIVE REMAINING ANERA PROPOSALS. SELZ HOPES THAT
THE LATTER PROJECTS WILL EVENTUALLY GAIN APPROVAL IF
US EMBASSY GIVES ANERA STRONG SUPPORT WITH GOI.

2. SELZ STRESSED TO AVITSOUR THAT ANERA COULD NOT
ENTERTAIN REFUGEE RELATED PROJECTS, THAT ANERA HAS
FULLY INFORMED THE GOI OF ITS PROJECTS AND DOES NOT
MAKE ANY COMMITMENT TO RECIPIENTS UNTIL ANERA/GOI/AID
APPROVAL HAS BEEN RECEIVED, AND THAT ANERA COULD NOT
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FEASIBLY DISCUSS WITH THE GOI BEFOREHAND EVERY POSSIBLE
PROJECT IDEA THAT MIGHT BE EXPLORED WITH THE PALESTINIANS.
GIVEN THESE CONSTRAINTS, SEXZ SAID, ANERA WOULD CON-
TINUE TO COORDINATE CLOSELY WITH THE GOI AT THE VARIOUS
WORKING LEVELS AND WOULD TRY TO HONOR GOI PRIORITIES
AND PROPOSALS WHEN THOSE PROJECTS WERE IN RESPONSE TO
A SPECIFIC PALESTINIAN AGENCY INITIATIVE. ANERA WOULD

ALSO CONTINUE TO BE INTERESTED IN MUNICIPAL AND COOPERATIVE PROJECTS AND WOULD DESIGN ITS PROGRAM TO COMPLEMENT THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS OF THE OTHER VOLAGS.

3. DURING OUR MEETING WITH SELZ HE AGAIN ASKED THAT THE EMBASSY CONFIRM TO THE GOI ITS SUPPORT OF ANERA. SELZ AND CONGENOFF ARE CONFIDENT THAT GOI'S NEGATIVE REACTION TO ANERA'S PROPOSALS REFLECT GOI DISLIKE OF THIS TYPE OF VOLAG ACTIVITY AND NOT THE VOLAG'S PERSONALITY.

4. OUR JUDGEMENT IS THAT WE ARE IN A NEGOTIATION PROCESS AND THAT CHANCES ARE GOOD THAT WE WILL EVENTUALLY REACH A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT PROMPT REPRESENTATION TO APPROPRIATE GOI OFFICIALS ON BEHALF OF ANERA AND ITS PROGRAMS WOULD BE USEFUL. DOES DEPARTMENT HAVE ANY SPECIFIC GUIDANCE? DEPARTMENT MAY ALSO WISH TO CALL IN DINSTEIN OR RAFF TO DISCUSS THIS ISSUE.
VIETS

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